

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-8, 10-14, and 17-35 are pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephonic interview and in a facsimile transaction from Nathan Grebasch on February 22, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Art Unit: 2435

1. (currently amended) A method comprising ~~for controlling access to secured information in a predetermined region comprising:~~

determining whether access is authorized to ~~said~~ secured information in a predetermined region of an image; and

distorting said predetermined region by:

applying a distortion function to said image by displacing said image onto said distortion function; and

projecting said image, to which the distortion function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said secured information with context from said image when said determining indicates that access is authorized, wherein said secured information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals for adjusting said distortion function.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising uncovering said predetermined region when said determining indicates that access is authorized.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining comprises:

receiving authentication information; and

comparing said authentication information to stored authentication information to indicate whether access is authorized.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said authentication information includes at least one of:

a user identification or

a password.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said authentication information is received through a dialog box.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said dialog box is presented adjacent to said predetermined region.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining is performed in response to receipt of a signal that selects said predetermined region.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said signal comprises a cursor movement.

9. (canceled)

Art Unit: 2435

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said distorting results in presentation of said secured information in detail in comparison to said context from said image.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said distorting comprises magnifying said predetermined region in comparison to said image.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said secured information comprises encrypted information.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said distorting further comprises decrypting said encrypted information.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said image comprises at least one of:

a graphic image,

a photographic image, or

a text image.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method of claim [[15]] 1, wherein said applying results in presentation of a focal region having a magnification for said predetermined region at least partially surrounded by a shoulder region where said magnification decreases to that of said image to provide context for said predetermined region with respect to said image, and said GUI is for adjusting at least one of:

- said magnification,
- a concavity of said shoulder region,
- an extent for said focal region,
- an extent for said shoulder region,
- a location for said distortion function within said image,
- a location for an outline of said shoulder region within said image, or
- a location for said focal region relative to said shoulder region to define a degree and a direction of a folding of said distortion function.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining further comprises:

- receiving biometric information; and
- comparing said biometric information to stored biometric information.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said biometric information comprises one or more of:

a fingerprint,
an iris pattern,
a voice pattern, or
DNA pattern information.

20. (currently amended) A method comprising:

determining whether access is authorized to detailed information included in a predetermined region of an image; and

magnifying said predetermined region by:

applying a magnification function to said image by displacing said image onto said magnification function; and

projecting said image, to which the magnification function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said detailed information at a higher resolution than a context region when said determining indicates that access is authorized, wherein said detailed information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals for adjusting said magnification function.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising uncovering a graphical user interface ~~("GUI") that covers~~ said predetermined region when said determining indicates that access is authorized.

Art Unit: 2435

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said predetermined region is presented at a same level of detail as said context region when said determining indicates access is denied.

23. (currently amended) One or more non-transitory computer-readable media comprising instructions that, responsive to being executed by a computing system, cause the computing system ~~are executable~~ to:

determine whether access is authorized to secured information included in a predetermined region of an image; and

distort said predetermined region through:

application of a distortion function to said image through displacement of said image onto said distortion function; and

projection of said image, to which the distortion function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said secured information in detail in comparison to a context region of said image, when access is authorized, wherein said secured information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals that adjust said distortion function.

24. (previously presented) The one or more computer-readable media of claim 23, wherein said secured information comprises encrypted information.

Art Unit: 2435

25. (previously presented) The one or more computer-readable media of claim 23, wherein said instructions are further executable to present a shoulder region that surrounds said predetermined region to provide context between said secured information and said context region.

26. (previously presented) The one or more computer-readable media of claim 23, wherein said image comprises one or more of:

- an original image,
- a base image,
- a graphic image,
- a photographic image, or
- a text image.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said distorting comprises manipulating said image.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said predetermined region is presented at a same level of detail as said context when authorization is denied.

29. (currently amended) A system comprising:

Art Unit: 2435

a processor coupled to memory that includes instructions that, [[if]] responsive to being executed by the processor, cause the system to provide one or more modules that include:

a module to determine whether access is authorized to detailed information in a predetermined region of an image presented on a display; ~~and~~

a module to generate a presentation on said display through application of a distortion function to said image by displacement of said image onto said distortion function and projection of said image, with the distortion function applied, onto a plane, wherein said presentation includes said predetermined region presented at a higher resolution than a remainder of said image responsive to a determination that access is authorized to said detailed information, said predetermined region being positioned with respect to the remainder of the image ~~such that~~ so said predetermined region is presented in context with said remainder to indicate said predetermined region's location in said image, wherein said module to generate a presentation is configured to present a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals that adjust said distortion function.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 29, wherein said module to generate the presentation is further configured to present a shoulder region adjacent said predetermined region, said shoulder region being configured to blend the predetermined region with said remainder of the image.

31. (previously presented) The system of claim 29, wherein said remainder of the image comprises a portion of said image that is not said predetermined region.

32. (currently amended) The system of claim 29, wherein said module to generate the presentation is further configured to present ~~a graphical user interface that prevents an icon to prevent~~ observation of said predetermined region when access is denied.

33. (currently amended) One or more non-transitory computer-readable media comprising instructions that, responsive to being executed by a computing system, cause the computing system to if executed:

determine whether access is authorized to secured information in a predetermined region of an image; and

magnify the predetermined region through:

application of a magnification function to said image through displacement of said image onto said magnification function; and

projection of said image, to which the magnification function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said secured information with context from said image when access is authorized to said secured information, said secured information being presented such that said predetermined region's location is maintained to show the predetermined region's location in the image, wherein said secured information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI").

Art Unit: 2435

over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals for adjusting said magnification function.

34. (currently amended) The one or more computer-readable media of claim 33, wherein the instructions are further executable to cause the computing system to present a graphical user interface that covers said predetermined region when access to said secured information is not authorized.

35. (currently amended) The one or more computer-readable media of claim 33, wherein to magnify the predetermined region causes the ~~instructions~~ computing system to:

~~apply a function to said predetermined region such that said image is displaced on to said function; and~~

~~project said image and said predetermined region onto a plane such that said predetermined region is included in a focal region that is at least partially surrounded by~~
surround the predetermined region with a shoulder region in which magnification decreases to the context's magnification.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-8, 10-14, 17-35 are allowed.

Art Unit: 2435

4. The Examiner had found that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious by determining whether access is authorized to secured information in a predetermined region of an image; and distorting said predetermined region by: applying a distortion function to said image by displacing said image onto said distortion function; and projecting said image, to which the distortion function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said secured information with context from said image when said determining indicates that access is authorized, wherein said secured information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals for adjusting said distortion function as in claims 1 and 23.

5. The Examiner had found that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious by determining whether access is authorized to detailed information included in a predetermined region of an image; and magnifying said predetermined region by: applying a magnification function to said image by displacing said image onto said magnification function; and projecting said image, to which the magnification function has been applied, onto a plane, to present said detailed information at a higher resolution than a context region when said determining indicates that access is authorized, wherein said detailed information is presented with a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals for adjusting said magnification function as in claims 20 and 33.

Art Unit: 2435

6. The Examiner had found that the prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious by determining whether access is authorized to detailed information in a predetermined region of an image presented on a display; generating a presentation on said display through application of a distortion function to said image by displacement of said image onto said distortion function and projection of said image, with the distortion function applied, onto a plane, wherein said presentation includes said predetermined region presented at a higher resolution than a remainder of said image responsive to a determination that access is authorized to said detailed information, said predetermined region being positioned with respect to the remainder of the image so said predetermined region is presented in context with said remainder to indicate said predetermined region's location in said image, wherein said module to generate a presentation is configured to present a graphical user interface ("GUI"), over said predetermined region, to receive one or more signals that adjust said distortion function as in claim 29.

7. Any comments considered necessary by the Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance or Examiner Amendment."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUMAN DEBNATH whose telephone number is (571)270-1256. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on 571 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. D./
Examiner, Art Unit 2435

/Kimyen Vu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435